

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

MDNR, MCCC/AMERICORPS STEWARDSHIP CREW

LOCATION: Algonac State Park
START DATE: Immediate (negotiable)
WORK SCHEDULE: Monday-Friday, 8-hour days. May include occasional weekend work.
COMPENSATION: Lead Worker, \$6.50, Assistant Lead Worker \$5.75 with Educational Grant Awards up to \$4,725

Position Summary:

The Parks & Recreation Division is seeking qualified individuals to assist in restoration of the natural resources of Algonac State Park. Algonac State Park lies adjacent to the St. Clair River on an old glacial lakeplain that consisted of vast prairie, oak openings and Great Lakes Marsh over 200 years ago. Today, the park still contains small remnants of these prairies and savannas, and the Parks Division is committed to the ecological restoration of functioning native prairies and oak openings communities similar to those that existed prior to European settlement. Each member of this MCCC Stewardship Crew will gain hands on experience in ecological restoration of prairie, oak openings and Great Lakes marsh ecosystems and the rare plants and animals that inhabit them.

About MCCC/AmeriCorps:

Crew members will not only be joining the Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps, but also have the opportunity to join AmeriCorps, the domestic program of the Peace Corps. AmeriCorps provides educational grants upon completion of set time requirements. The grant is \$4,725 upon completion of 1,700 hours for the 1-year full time position and is \$2,362 for a six-month full time position of 900 hours. Awards for lesser time completion are also available. The education award may be used for any qualifying form of higher education from vocational training to graduate school, or may be used to repay existing student loans. Other benefits include paid personal annual leave and paid administrative leave for career development and job searches.

Typical Duties:

1. Control invasive plants at the park. Control techniques will likely include the following:
 - a. Cutting brush and trees with a chainsaw, clearing saw, bow saw, or other equipment, hauling firewood.
 - b. Applying herbicide to stumps and/or foliage
 - c. Hand pulling plants and/or mowing or trimming herbaceous vegetation
2. Install and maintain prescribed burn control lines.
3. Collect seed from various native plants.
4. Assist with planting efforts to reestablish native plants in portions of the park.
5. Assist with biological monitoring activities, such as photo monitoring, plot sampling, and/or animal point counts.
6. Responsible for the proper care, cleaning, and routine maintenance of equipment.
7. Assist with and/or lead volunteer work days.

Requirements:

1. Applicants must be between 18 and 25 years of age and meet all other MCCC requirements to qualify.
2. Minimum of high school graduate. College coursework in botany, zoology, and/or ecology is desirable.
3. Willing and able to use herbicides. Crew leaders/assistant crew leaders must either be a certified commercial pesticide applicator or willing to obtain certification upon starting employment.
4. Willingness to safely use power equipment, including chainsaws and clearing saws (training provided).
5. Good physical condition to conduct long days of strenuous field work, often under adverse conditions in remote areas of the park. Must be able to endure biting flies, ticks, mosquitoes, and work in all weather conditions.
6. Ability to work independently as well as work well in a team environment and with the public (volunteers).
7. Must pass a physical examination/fitness test, to work on prescribed burns (burn crew participation optional).
8. Be safety conscious (obey all safety instructions and guidelines) and committed to restoration and general stewardship of the natural ecosystems within Michigan State Parks.

For more information about MCCC/AmeriCorps and the positions visit the DNR web site, or to send a resume contact:

Bob Clancy; 517-241-2055; MDNR, Parks and Recreation Division P.O. Box 30257 Lansing, MI 48909-7757; e-mail clancyre@michigan.gov